Construction of hotels and hostels in NCT of Delhi for common-wealth games

†215. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the special arrangements being made for construction of hotels and hostels in National Capital Territory of Delhi for Commonwealth Games and to attract the tourists;

(b) the arrangements being made by the Ministry to mobilise financial sources in the next three years alongwith the amount provided by Central Government; and

(c) the progress made so for in this regard alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) The activity of construction of hotels in the country is undertaken by the private sector.

As allotment of Government land for creation of tourist infrastructure is a State subject. Delhi Development Authority has been requested to make available adequate number of sites for construction of hotels in Delhi to meet the demand of tourists for Commonwealth Games, etc.

Irregularities in the purchase of whisky by ITDC

216. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) has noticed irregularities in the purchase of 20 thousand whisky bottles at inflated prices by some officers of the ITDC in 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against the officers of the ITDC, found involved in the fraudulent deal;

(d) whether this case has since been referred to the CBI for investigation; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in the investigation so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Complaints have been received alleging irregularities and violation of rules and procedures in purchase of Black Label Whisky. An enquiry has been ordered into these allegations.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) CBI has registered a case and started investigation.

New aspects of tourism

217. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of new aspects of tourism such as eco-tourism;

(b) if so, the steps taken to promote such tourism; and

(c) the details of funds allocated for this purpose in the current budget?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry of Tourism has formulated the policy and guidelines for Eco-Tourism in India. The State/UTs Governments have been requested to identify the places and take appropriate steps for development of Eco-Tourism in their state.

(c) The Ministry of Tourism extends Central financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territories for development of tourism including Eco-Tourism, on the basis of the proposals received from them, subject to availability of funds and *inter-se* priorities. These projects are sanctioned under the "Destination Development" and "Integrated Development of Tourism Circuit" schemes.

Per capita availability of water

218. SHRI R. K. ANAND: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state: